

In re: Anthony Donnellan
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Meredith Schuessler

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES

In the Specification:

The specification has been amended as follows:

On page 1, line 1, please insert the following:

-- Cross-Reference to Related Applications

The present application is a U.S. national phase application of PCT International Application No. PCT/GB00/01678, having an international filing date of May 2, 2000 and claiming priority to Great Britain Application No. 9909989.7 filed April 30, 1999, and Great Britain Application No. 9910892.0 filed May 11, 1999, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties. The above PCT International Application was published in the English language and has International Publication No. WO 01/09460. --

On page 1, between the first and second paragraphs, delete "**Background Art Known to the Applicant**" and insert -- **Background of the Invention** --.

On page 5, between the fourth and fifth paragraphs, delete "**Description of the Preferred Embodiments**" and insert -- **Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments** --.

On page 10, in the first line, delete "**CLAIMS**" and insert -- **What Is Claimed Is:** -- therefor.

In the Abstract:

The following has been inserted after the claims:

-- Abstract

A tiling guide to aid the placement of tiles on to a surface comprises an elongate substantially flat strip having fixing means to secure the guide to a surface. The guide is provided with a ridge against which a tile can be aligned, and is so sized as to be obscured from view following conventional grouting. The ridge may be provided with a series of cut-outs, and preferably has a castellated shape to enable the guide to be rolled up during storage and transportation. Fixing means is preferably in the form of a layer of adhesive protected prior to use by a peelable paper strip. --

In the Claims:

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. **(Amended)** A tiling guide [(1)] to aid the placement of tiles onto a surface, the tiling guide [(1)] comprising surface-engaging means [(12)] which enable the tiling guide [(1)] to be secured to the surface [and characterised in that the guide (1) comprises], one or more substantially flat elongate portions [(2)] each [portion (2)] having a tile engaging side and a surface engaging side, [the guide (1) further comprising] and tile abutment means [(3)] to align the edge of a tile, the tiling guide [(1)] being so sized as to be completely obscured from view once the completed tiling has been conventionally grouted.
2. **(Amended)** A tiling guide [(1)] according to Claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein the tile abutment means comprises a ridge [(3)] extending away from the tile engaging side.
3. **(Amended)** A tiling guide [(1)] according to Claim 2 [characterised in that] wherein the ridge [(3)] is located along [the] a central longitudinal axis of the tiling guide [(1)].
4. **(Amended)** A tiling guide [(1)] according to [either of Claims 2 or 3 characterised in that] Claim 2 wherein the ridge [(3)] comprises one or more cut-outs.
5. **(Amended)** A tiling guide [(1)] according to Claim 4 [characterised in that] wherein the ridge [(3)] has a castellated cross-section parallel to [its] a longitudinal axis of the tiling guide.
6. **(Amended)** A tiling guide [(1)] according to [any of Claims 2 to 5 characterised in that] Claim 2 wherein the ridge [(3)] has a T-shaped cross-section [91], the T-shape allowing the grout to key into the tiling guide [(1)].

7. (Amended) A tiling guide [(1)] according to [any preceding claim characterised in that] Claim 1 wherein the tiling guide comprises two non-parallel substantially flat elongate portions [(16A, 16B)].

8. (Amended) A tiling guide [(1)] according to Claim 7 characterised in that wherein the angle between the two non-parallel substantially flat elongate portions [(16A, 16B)] is selected from the group comprising 60°, 45°, 90° and 120°.

9. (Amended) A tiling guide [(1)] according to Claims 1 to 5 characterised in that wherein the tiling guide comprises a single elongate portion.

10. (Amended) A tiling guide [(1)] according to [any preceding claim characterised in that] Claim 1 wherein the or each end of the tiling guide [(1)] is provided with one or more markings [(14)] to enable the or each end to be cut away at a specific angle.

11. (Amended) A tiling guide [(1)] according to [any preceding claims characterised in that] Claim 1 wherein the surface-engaging means [(12)] comprises an adhesive along the surface-engaging side of the tiling guide [(1)].

12. (Amended) A tiling guide [(1)] according to Claim 11 characterised in that wherein prior to use of the tiling guide [(1)] the adhesive is protected by a removable sheet [(11)].

13. (Amended) A tiling guide [(1)] according to [any preceding claims characterised in that] Claim 1 wherein the or each elongate portion comprises a number of cut outs along the or each edge to enable the tiling guide [(1)] to bent into a desired curved shape.

14. (Amended) A tiling guide [(1)] according to [any preceding claims

characterised in that] Claim 1 wherein the tile engaging side of the tiling guide [(1)] is roughened by means of scratches or grooves.

15. (Amended) A tiling guide [(1)] according to [any preceding claims characterised in that] Claim 1 wherein the tile engaging side subtends an angle of from 2 to 10° with the surface.

Claim 16 has been cancelled.

17. (Amended) A method of tiling comprising the steps of:
establishing a line on or adjacent the surface to be tiled;
securing a tiling guide of the type specified herein above to the surface using the established line to assist alignment of the tiling guide;
applying adhesive to the surface to be tiled;
aligning one or more tiles along the tiling guide;
tiling the remainder of the surface; and
applying grout to fill in the space between the tiles and obscure the tiling guide from view.

18. (Amended) A method of tiling according to Claim 17 [characterised in that,] wherein the tile is aligned by abutment against an outwardly extending ridge located on the tiling guide.

19. (Amended) A method of tiling according to [either of Claims 17 or 18 characterised in that] Claim 17 wherein a second tiling guide is secured at an angle, adjacent the tiling guide to enable two edges of a tile to be aligned.

20. (Amended) A pack of tiles [incorporating a tiling guide (1) of the type defined in Claim 1] comprising:

a) a tiling guide to aid the placement of tiles onto a surface, the tiling

guide comprising:

surface-engaging means which enable the tiling guide to be secured to the surface;

one or more substantially flat elongate portions each having a tile engaging side and a surface engaging side; and

tile abutment means to align the edge of a tile, the tiling guide being so sized as to be completely obscured from view once the completed tiling has been conventionally grouted; and

b) a plurality of tiles packaged with the tiling guide.